

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 SCCT-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 SAB-01 ACDA-05 AID-05

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P R 311142Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9541

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 8237

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IS JO

SUBJECT: ALLON VISIT: THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION

REF: TEL AVIV 7880, TEL AVIV A-232

1. BEGIN UNCLAS: FONMIN ALLON HAS SPOKEN TWICE RECENTLY FOR PUBLIC RECORD ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE. ON NEITHER OCCASION DID HE ADD ANY SIGNIFICANT INNOVATIONS TO HIS POSITION AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (REFS) NOR IS HE LIKELY TO DO SO PRIOR TO HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

2. IN KNESSET STATEMENT DECEMBER 24 AND AGAIN IN SPEECH DECEMBER 26 TO LABOR PARTY MEETING, ALLON EMPHASIZED BOTH ASPECTS OF HIS STANCE ON THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEMS: (A) REJECTION OF ANY DEALING WITH THE PLO, INCLUDING REFUSAL TO PARTICIPATE IN RECONVENED GENEVA CONFERENCE IF PLO INVITED; AND(B) NEED FOR NEW, MORE POSITIVE, ISRAELI APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM IN RECOGNITION OF FACT THAT
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SOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE IS CENTRAL AND INDISPENS-

ABLE COMPONENT OF A MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT.

3. IN DECEMBER 26 APPEARANCE, ALLON ALSO REITERATED CURRENT ISRAELI POLICY OF SEEKING SOLUTION TO QUESTION OF "PALESTINIAN IDENTITY" THROUGH SETTLEMENT WITH JORDAN AND REJECTING ESTABLISHMENT OF THIRD STATE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND JORDAN. REPEATING THE FORMULATION HE HAS ADOPTED OVER PAST YEAR, HE SAID: "WE WILL NO LONGER AGREE TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH JORDAN UNLESS IT CONTAINS A SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM". HE WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT "THE JORDANIANS SHOULD NOT BELIEVE THAT WE WILL LEAVE THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM IN THEIR HANDS INDEFINITELY WITHOUT THEIR MAKING ANY EFFORTS."

4. ALLON ALSO REPEATED HIS ENDORSEMENT OF THE NEED FOR TERRITORIAL COMPROMISE IN AREAS WITH LARGE ARAB POPULATIONS AND AGAIN IMPLICITLY CRITICIZED GOVERNMENTAL HANDLING OF RECENT SEBASTIA AFFAIR BY ASSERTION THAT JEWISH SETTLEMENTS IN ARAB POPULATED AREA WOULD HAMPER PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT: WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE IN-DEPTH CABINET DISCUSSION OF PALESTINIAN QUESTION UNTIL AFTER ALLON RETURNS FROM U.S. (IF THEN). HE WILL HAVE NO MANDATE, THEREFORE, TO GO BEYOND ESTABLISHED OFFICIAL POSITIONS ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS OPPOSITION TO RECOGNITION OF PLO.

6. IF DISCUSSIONS TURN TO WHAT INITIATIVES ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION ISRAEL MAY BE ABLE TO ACCEPT, ALLON WILL PROBABLY HAVE LITTLE TO SUGGEST BEYOND INDICATING THAT HE FAVORS SOME APPEARANCE OF MOVEMENT. THIS WOULD BE IN KEEPING WITH HIS OWN CURRENT THINKING--I.E., HE BELIEVES THAT ISRAEL HAS TO SHOW ITS FRIENDS THAT IT FAVORS POSITIVE APPROACH, AND IS NOT SIMPLY SAYING "NO".

7. TALKS WITH ALLON COULD PROVIDE USEFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR CONVEYING TO ISRAELI GOVERNMENT U.S. THINKING ON POSSIBILITY OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION WITHIN JORDANIAN DELEGATION AT GENEVA OR OTHER FORUM. ISRAELI ATTITUDE TOWARD THIS QUESTION IN PAST, AS ARTICULATED BY ALLON AND OTHERS, HAS BEEN THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMPOSITION OF JORDANIAN DELEGATION IS MATTER FOR JORDAN TO DECIDE AND THAT ISRAEL WOULD NOT SCRUTINIZE MEMBERS TOO CLOSELY. TOON

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Message Attributes

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